AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of filtering text messages received by a mobile telecommunications device, the method comprising the steps of:[[-]]

    a)   inputting a rule set into the telecommunications device by downloading the rules set from a network operator;

    b)   reading an incoming message;

    c)   modifying the message if that message breaks a rule of the rule set; and

    d)   displaying the modified message;

    wherein the rule set comprises a plurality of rules, each of which relates to a respective predetermined message content.

2. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the message is a text message.

3. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein step b) includes the step of parsing the incoming test message.

4. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 2 or claim 3, wherein step c) is such as to delete the predetermined text content, or to replace the letters of the predetermined text content with meaningless characters.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4 1 to 3, wherein step a) is carried out by downloading the rule set from a network operator.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of filtering text messages received by a mobile telecommunications device, the method comprising the steps of:[[-]]

a)   inputting a rule set into the telecommunications device;

b)   reading an incoming message;

c)   modifying the message if that message breaks a rule of the rule set;

d)   displaying the modified message; and

e)   modifying the rule set, to accommodate the needs of a user, by that user inputting a modification to the rule set;

wherein the rule set comprises a plurality of rules, each of which relates to a respective predetermined message content.

7. (Original) A telecommunications device comprising a transceiver, a processor and a display, the processor including software, means for inputting a rule set into the software from a network operator, means for reading an incoming message, means for modifying the message if that message breaks a rule of the rule set whereby a modified message is displayed, wherein the rule set comprises a plurality of rules, each of which relates to a respective predetermined message content.

8. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the software is such that a user of the device can modify the rule set.

9. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 8, further comprising data input means linked to the processor for modifying the rule set.

10. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 9, wherein a keypad constitutes the data input means.

11. (Original) A device as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 10, wherein, when the message is a text message, the software is such as to parse the incoming text message.

12. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the software is such as to delete the predetermined text content, or to replace letters of the predetermined text content with meaningless characters.

13. (Original) A mobile telecommunications device comprising a transceiver, a processor and a display, the processor including software containing a rule set, means for modifying the rule set, to accommodate the needs of a user, on input of a modification of the rule set by that user, means for reading an incoming message, means for modifying the message if that message breaks a rule of the rule set whereby a modified message is displayed, wherein the rule set comprises a plurality of rules, each of which relates to a respective predetermined message content.